

REMARKS

Claims 14-26 are now pending in the application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection(s) in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 14-26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Dixon et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 4,677,338). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended to applicant's representative during a telephone interview on July 6, 2004. During that interview, the Examiner indicated that the claims as amended herein would define patentable subject matter over the prior art reference (U.S. Patent No. 4,677,338) cited in the Office Action. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 14, along with claims depending therefrom, defines patentable subject matter over Dixon. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the

Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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